

**232.179 Appointment of counsel and guardian ad litem.**

Upon the filing of a petition, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem to represent the best interests of the child unless the court determines that the child already has a guardian ad litem who represents the child's best interests. If the child's parent, guardian, or custodian desires counsel but cannot pay the counsel's expenses, the court may appoint counsel.

89 Acts, ch 169, §6